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**DECLARATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION,  
POWER OF ATTORNEY, DESIGNATION OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name, and that I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREVENTING LOOPS WITHIN A DATA STITCHING NETWORK ELEMENT

the specification of which

[ ] is attached hereto.

[ X ] was filed on February 15, 2001, as Application Serial No. 09/783,294;

[ ] was filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty on \_\_\_\_\_,  
Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, the United States of America being designated.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s) Number	Country	Date Filed	Priority Claimed	
			Yes	No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States Application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Steven M. Rabin (Reg. No. 29,102), Thomas M. Champagne (Reg. No. 36,478), Robert H. Berdo, Jr. (Reg. No. 38,075), and George F. Wallace (Reg. No. 45,286) 1101 14<sup>th</sup> Street N. W., Washington, D.C. 20005, Telephone: (202) 659-1915; Fax: (202) 659-1898. Address all correspondence to RABIN & CHAMPAGNE, P.C., 1101 14<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005.

The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from the undersigned's assignee, if any, and/or, if the undersigned is not a resident of the United States, the undersigned's domestic attorney, patent attorney, patent agent, or patent representative as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the person(s) from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signature: Carmel Lau Date: 5/5/2001, 2001  
First Joint Inventor: Carmel Chi Him Lau  
Citizenship: Canadian  
Residence and Post Office Address: 1900 Sestri Lane, Apt. 206, Petaluma, CA 94954

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
Second Joint Inventor: Michael F. Davis  
Citizenship: American  
Residence and Post Office Address: 1930 William Drive, Penngrove, CA 94951

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
Third Joint Inventor: Thomas E. Black, Jr.  
Citizenship: American  
Residence and Post Office Address: 1504 San Ramon Way, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

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First Joint Inventor: Carmel Chi Him Lau

Citizenship: Canadian

Residence and Post Office Address: 1900 Sestri Lane, Apt. 206, Petaluma, CA 94954

Signature: Michael F. Davis Date: 5/10, 2001

Second Joint Inventor: Michael F. Davis

Citizenship: American

Residence and Post Office Address: 1930 William Drive, Penngrove, CA 94951

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

Third Joint Inventor: Thomas E. Black, Jr.

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